

Figure 2 is a perspective view showing the freezable protective pad and its corresponding holding pouch.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the backpack hair dryer being worn by a user.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to Figures 1-3, the present invention relates to a backpack type hair dryer with a heated air bonnet that includes a portable housing 1 having a front surface 2, a rear surface 3, a top edge 4, a lower edge 5 and two opposing side edges 6. Disposed on the rear surface is a squirrel cage type hot air blower 7 having an air outlet 8 positioned thereon. Within the blower is an air passageway having a heating element disposed therein for heating air flowing through the passageway. A pair of air intake vents 30 are positioned on the rear surface of the housing, preferably adjacent the lower edge thereof, for supplying fresh ambient air to the blower. The blower and heater are powered with rechargeable batteries received within a pair of pockets 9 on the housing rear surface.

The hair dryer also includes an elongated flexible air hose ⁴⁰~~23~~ having two opposing ends, a first of which includes a coupling member 24 for removable, mating engagement with the blower outlet. The opposing end has a bonnet 10 attached thereto. The bonnet includes an elastomeric, expandible opening 11 in

communication with a head receiving cavity **12**. The opening **11** includes a peripheral drawstring **13** that allows a user to vary the size of the opening according to the size of a wearer's head. The head receiving cavity includes an interior surface with a plurality of air discharge apertures **15** disposed thereon that are in communication with the hose. Accordingly, when the blower and heater are activated, hot air is delivered to the cavity apertures to dry a wearer's hair. A pair of bands **26** having hook and loop fasteners thereon are attached to the rear surface of the housing for securing the hose in a coiled configuration when not in use.

Secured to the front surface of the housing are a pair of padded, adjustable shoulder straps **16** allowing a user to wear the device like a conventional backpack. The housing front surface further includes a pouch **17** accessible via an opening **18** on an edge thereof that removably receives a freezable pad **32**. When the device is being properly worn, the frozen pad is positioned between the wearer's back and the hot air blower assembly thereby protecting the back from burns that may be caused by the heater or blower.

Operation of the heater and blower is generally controlled with a switch **20** conveniently positioned on the housing. Additionally, operation is controlled with a remote device **21** electrically connected to the heater and blower with a cable **22**. A remote receiving pocket **23** is positioned on one of the shoulder straps for

marked up version

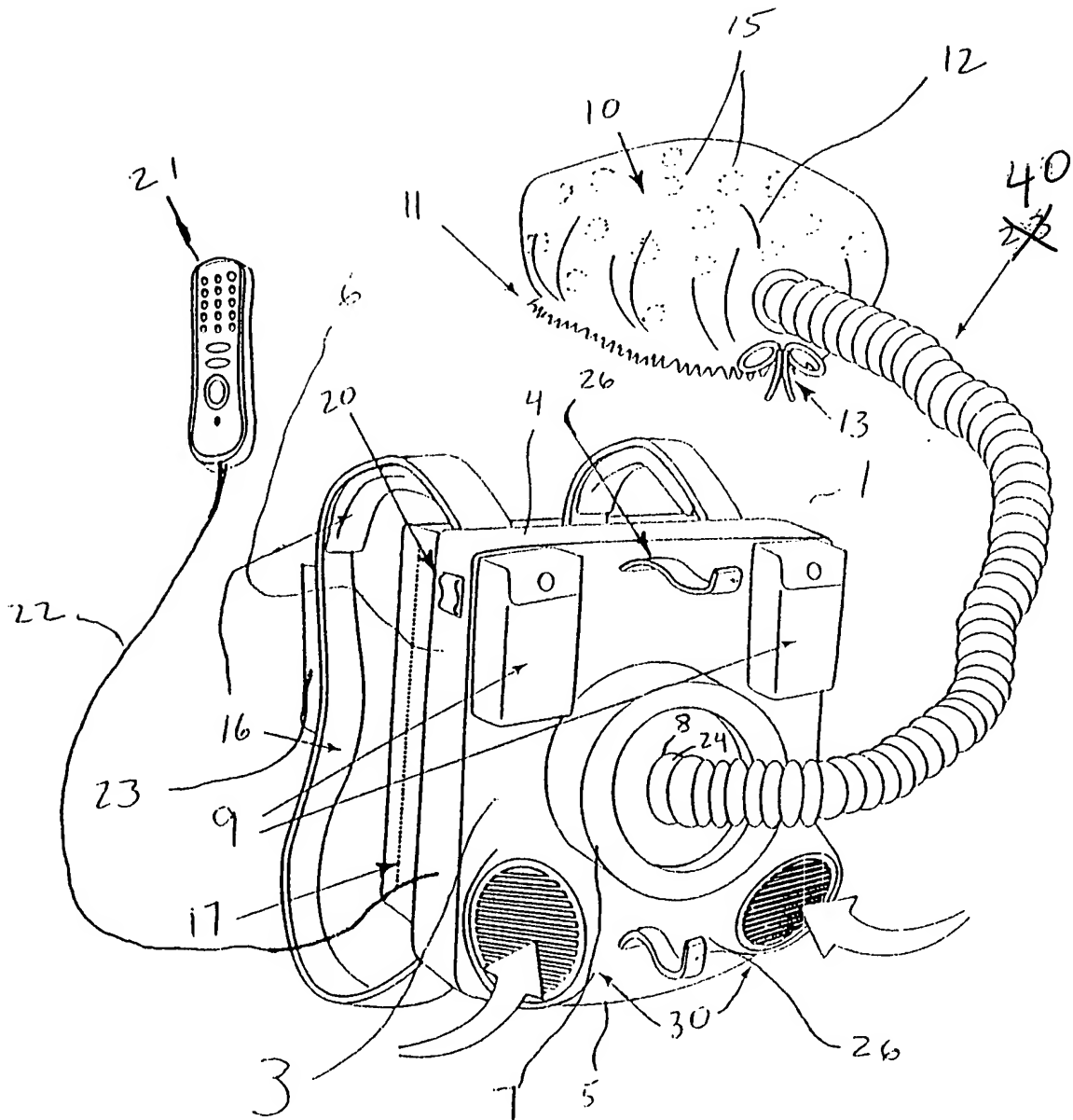


Fig. 1

marked up version

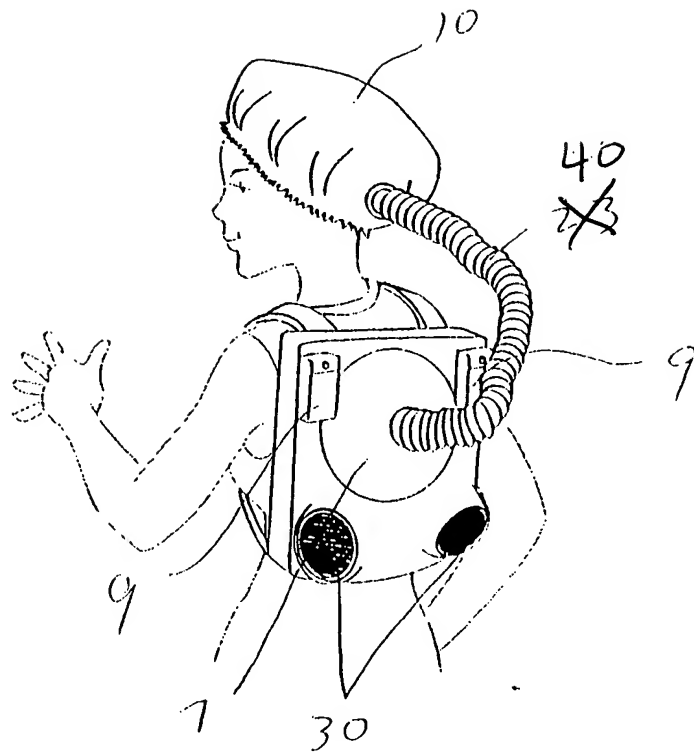


Fig. 2

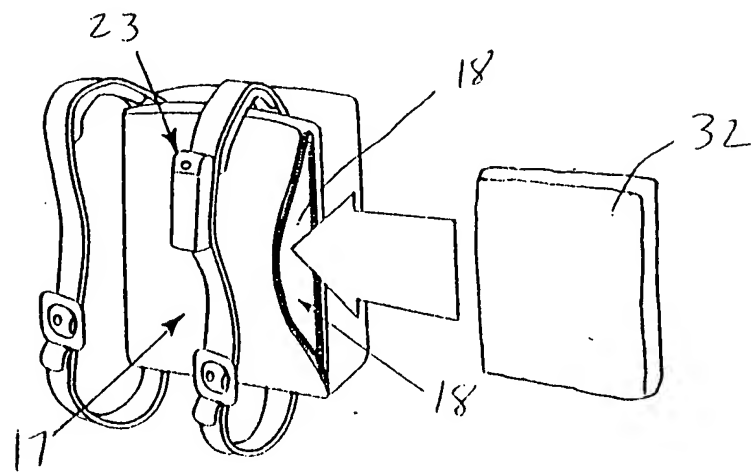


Fig. 3